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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/600,723	06/20/2003	Hsueh-Cheng Lin	252011-1190	5839
47390	7590	03/14/2005	EXAMINER	
THOMAS, KAYDEN, HOSTEMEYER & RISLEY LLP 100 GALLERIA PARKWAY SUITE 1750 ATLANTA, GA 30339		MACARTHUR, VICTOR L		
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	3679

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	10/600,723	
Examiner	LIN ET AL Art Unit	
Victor MacArthur	3679	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/19/2004.
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) 28-32 is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-4,7-16,19-21 and 24 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) 5,6,17,18,22,23 and 25-27 is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- The phrase “the cross section” (lines 10-11 of claim 1; and line 7 of claim 12) lacks proper antecedent basis and should be replaced with “a cross section”.
- The phrase “the first retaining portion” (line 11 of claim 1 and line 7 of claim 12) lacks proper antecedent basis and should be replaced with “the retaining portion”

Appropriate correction is required. For purposes of examining the instant invention, the examiner has assumed these corrections have been made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4, 7-16, 19-21 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schwarzbich (U.S. Patent 6,585,447).

Claim 1. Schwarzbich discloses all of the claim 1 limitations rejected in the previous Office Action rejection. Furthermore, Schwarzbich discloses that the cross section (cross section of the bottom threads on the lower portion of 20) of the retaining portion (lower portion of 20)

differs (in axial position) from those of other parts (parts of the upper non-threaded head of 20) of the fixing pin (20).

Claims 2-4 and 7-11. Schwarzbich discloses all of these claim limitations in the same manner as stated in the previous Office Action rejection.

Claim 12. Schwarzbich discloses all of the claim 12 limitations rejected in the previous Office Action rejection. Furthermore, Schwarzbich discloses that the cross section (cross section of the bottom threads on the lower portion of 20) of the retaining portion (lower portion of 20) differs (in axial position) from those of other parts (parts of the upper non-threaded head of 20) of the fixing pin (20).

Claims 13-16 and 19-21 and 24. Schwarzbich discloses all of these claim limitations in the same manner as stated in the previous Office Action rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 6, 17, 18, 22, 23 and 25-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The reasons for allowability are stated in the previous Office Action.

Newly added claims 28-32 are allowed since they include all of the limitations of claims 22, 23 and 25-27, respectively, including all of the limitations of the base and intervening claims, as was detailed to be allowable in the previous office action.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with regard to the claim rejections have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicant argues that the newly added limitation "the cross section of the first retaining portion differs from those of other parts of the fixing pin" (claims 1 and 12) is not disclosed by Schwarzbich. This is not persuasive since Schwarzbich does disclose this newly added limitation, as is detailed in the rejections of claims 1 and 12 above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Art Unit: 3679

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor MacArthur whose telephone number is (703) 305-5701. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (703) 308-2686. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

VLM
VLM
February 28, 2005

Daniel P Stodola

DANIEL P. STODOLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600